

NORTH CENTRAL REGION NEWS

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September, 2005

2006 ANNUAL REMAINS IN AREA

The ACFA Board accepted a delightful bid from Minn-Kota Cat Club to host the 2006 Annual at the Doublewood Inn in Fargo, North Dakota. Dates will be August 15 - 20, 2006. The meetings, banquet and show will be under one roof.

In addition to the board meetings, awards banquet and show, the club is planning several educational seminars on a variety of topics. So plan to come early and participate.

PAWS Legislation

Congress is proposing changes to federal animal welfare laws which could require federal inspection of even fairly small catteries and rescue operations. **The proposed requirements could not be met in a typical home breeding operation.**

The Legislative Committee has prepared information on how to voice opposition to the very dangerous PAWS bill which is now before Congress. The Board of Directors approved a statement of ACFA's opposition to the legislation.

Information is available on the ACFA Website. There are sample petitions, lists of contacts, etc.

Members are encouraged to call or fax their congressional delegations NOW! Ask your pet buyers, friends and relatives to also participate.

A Note From Your Regional Director

By Jim Nelson, Regional Director

The reports from the ACFA 2005 Annual Board of Directors Meetings can be found in this newsletter. There is one specific item, which was on the agenda that pertains directly to all members of the North Central Region and Canada.

There is a proposal on the table, which only members of the North Central and Western Canada regions will vote on this year. **It would create a new ACFA Region called Northern Plains. Northern Plains will be comprised of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and the members from the Western Canada Region.** I realize that the North Central Region will lose 2 cat clubs and some very active members; but for the benefit of ACFA as a whole I feel this is a good move in a positive direction. I am soliciting your ideas and comments regarding this proposal. Please let me know what you think. Clubs in the new region are supporting the change.

The North Central Region has shown growth in attendance and membership this year. We have a strong active group of members. Many of our members are using the North Central website and it has proven to be an asset to ACFA.

The many clubs that make up this Region are all in good financial standing with Central Office. I am looking forward to the 2nd Janesville show, since it was put back on its feet by a number of members from many different clubs in this Region, all working together.

In closing, kudos to the Madison Cat Club who pulled off a wonderful show this July against all odds. They are a club of dedicated ACFA members, who worked through the night, as one catastrophe after another befell them.

Thank you for your support of ACFA and the North Central Region.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL

Carol Barbee, ACFA President

The ACFA Annual Board meetings, Awards Banquet and Show were once again a rousing success. We worked hard and we played hard. But, to the best of my knowledge, no one required the services of the Mayo Clinic located directly across the street.

The September Bulletin will have all the details of the decisions made at the Board meeting. There are a number of Show Rule, Bylaw and Registration Rule changes that the members will have the opportunity to vote on. Before then, following is a brief synopsis of the most important business.

Things the members will vote on that are not simple housecleaning issues:
Show Rules -

Article II - change the requirement of one Specialty Judge each day at a back to back show to one Specialty Judge per weekend.

Article IV - allow Bengal kittens to be for sale in the show hall with only a litter registration rather than an individual registration.

Article XIV - require the ACFA logo to be on show flyers.

Bylaw Article XII - require Judges' Schools to be a minimum of 6 hours like is now required for Breeder's Seminars.

Combination of several Show Rules and Bylaws - set the official dates for the beginning and end of the show season as May 1 to April 30 (yes we were surprised to find that wasn't already done too) and make the last weekend part of the old season in the years May 1 falls on a Sunday.

Article V - eliminate kitten colors on the litter registration application.

Article VII - allows a cat to be reregistered with a different name within 60 days of the first registration. Currently a name cannot be changed after it is registered.

Article VII - require all owners to sign a transfer.

Article VII - registration's made to an owner without that person's knowledge will be voided.

Article VIII, sec 1 - add: "Acceptance is at the discretion of the Board of Directors and nothing in these Rules shall be construed to require the Board of Directors to accept any application for Experimental Breed Status or to advance any Experimental or Probationary breed for any reason."

All Breeds which requested Registration Rule changes were approved to be voted on by the Breed Section members.

The following Board actions did not require a membership vote:

The **moratorium on new breeds** was reworded to prohibit:

1. Any breed with a species other than Felis Catus anywhere in its recent ancestry, as defined by CITES, or a deliberate and undisputed use of a non Felis Catus species in the development of the breed.
2. Any breed with a physical deformity that is a defining characteristic of the breed and which is associated with serious health-affecting conditions.

Price increases - A few small increases were necessary to keep ACFA financially sound. Several other proposed increases were not approved. Those approved were:

- All confirmations, Champion, Grand, etc., will increase by \$2.00
- Litters registered later than 90 days after birth will add \$3.00 to the fee
- Club charter renewal fees will increase from \$25 to \$30
- HHP Judge application and renewal fees will increase from \$10 to \$15

Effective Jan. 1, 2006, **Pixiebobs were given approval for Experimental Breed status** with new registration and DNA testing requirements. **Entry Clerks** - please note that Pixiebobs are not eligible to be shown in NBC classes until that date.

The Board created a new award called "Exhibitor's Favorite Show of the Year." Members will vote on this prestigious award.

ACFA has signed an agreement with Precious Pets Mfg. to sell 14k gold ACFA jewelry. ACFA will receive a 25% commission on purchases of this ACFA jewelry **ONLY IF IT IS ORDERD FROM THE ACFA WEB SITE.** The information on prices and how to order, along with

Thanks to Fox River Valley for hosting the Regional Awards Banquet!

North Central Financial Report

Starting balance 1/2004	\$1464.62
<i>Income:</i>	
ACFA Surcharge \$.50 per Exhibited Cat	\$2034.50
Total Income and Starting Balance	\$3499.12
<i>2004 Expenses:</i>	
Newsletter Postage	\$ 74.00
SunShine Software Annual Web Hosting Fee	\$ 120.00
SunShine Software Annual Domain Reg. Fee	\$ 15.00
Stallion Enterprises 03/04 Regional Awards	\$1254.00
Breed Award Postage	\$ 10.78
Norma Anderson Regional Awards Banquet	\$ 246.00
<i>2005 Expenses:</i>	
Newsletter Postage	\$ 74.00
SunShine Software Annual Web Hosting Fee	\$ 120.00
Sunshine Software Annual Domain Reg. Fee	\$ 15.00
ACFA Mailing Labels	\$ 19.70
Fox River Valley Cat Club Regional Banquet	\$1000.00
Total Expenditures	\$2948.48
 Bank Balance 8/26/05	 \$ 550.64

Support your North Central ACFA Cat Shows & Activities

2005

- October 1-2 Cat N Around Cat Club, Des Moines, IA
- October 15-16 Friendly Kat Fanciers of Iowa, Cedar Rapids, IA
- October 29-30 Big Sioux Cat Fanciers, Sioux Falls, SD
- November 6 Janesville Allbreed Cat Club, Janesville, WI
- December 10 TIMACS, Crown Point, IN

2006

- February 4-5 Rock Valley Cat Club, Rockford, IL
- March 18-19 Central Wisconsin Cat Club, Wausau, WI
- April 1-2 Minn-Kota Feline Club, West Fargo, ND
- April 22-23 Gopher State Cat Club, Farmington, MN
- May 13-14 Cat Tales Cat Fanciers, Maple Grove, MN
- July 15-16 Madison Cat Club, Stoughton, WI
- August 5-6 Coulee Region Cat Club, Onalaska, WI
- August 15-18 ACFA ANNUAL -Hosted by Minn-Kota Feline Club, Fargo, ND**
- August 19-20 Minn-Kota Feline Club—Show in conjunction with Annual.**
- September 1 Deadline for nominations for ACFA officers, directors, JPC and breed committees.
- September 9-10 Fox River Valley Cat Club, Neenah, WI